

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-29 (Canceled).

Claim 30 (New): A mold for producing a silicon ingot, comprising:

a graphite or quartz mold body having a bottom and a top having an opening and having an inner wall face of a shape which defines the shape of the silicon ingot produced, said inner wall face coated with a beta quartz stucco silica layer comprising fine fused silica sand having a particle size of 100-300 μm .

Claim 31 (New): The mold according to Claim 30, wherein the inner wall face of said mold is tapered from the bottom of the mold towards said opening so that the area of the opening becomes larger than the area of the bottom of the mold.

Claim 32 (New): The mold according to Claim 30, wherein the interior of the mold has a circular or a polygonal horizontal cross-section which defines the shape of the silicon ingot product produced.

Claim 33 (New): The mold according to Claim 31, wherein the interior of the mold has a circular or a polygonal horizontal cross-section which defines the shape of the silicon ingot product produced.

Claim 34 (New): A mold for producing a silicon ingot, comprising:

a graphite or quartz mold body having a bottom and a top having an opening and having an inner wall face of a shape which defines the shape of the silicon ingot produced, the interior wall face of the mold coated with a beta quartz stucco silica layer comprising at least one layer prepared by binding a fused silica powder with a particle size of 100 μm or less and a fine fused silica sand with a particle size of 100-300 μm with a silica binder.

Claim 35 (New): The mold according to Claim 34, wherein the inner wall face of said mold is tapered from the bottom of the mold towards said opening so that the area of the opening becomes larger than the area of the bottom of the mold.

Claim 36 (New): The mold according to Claim 34, wherein the interior of the mold has a circular or a polygonal horizontal cross-section which defines the shape of the silicon ingot product produced.

Claim 37 (New): The mold according to Claim 35, wherein the interior of the mold has a circular or a polygonal horizontal cross-section which defines the shape of the silicon ingot product produced.

Claim 38 (New): The mold according to Claim 30, wherein said mold further comprises, therein, said silicon ingot.

Claim 39 (New): The mold according to Claim 34, wherein said mold further comprises, therein, said silicon ingot.